

heroin into the United States; rogue states continue to acquire the components of weapons of mass destruction; foreign terrorists now target Americans at home as well as abroad; and indigenous forces threaten U.S. soldiers on multilateral missions abroad.

To address these threats, the CIA has helped the Colombian Government break up the Cali drug cartel, and enabled United States law enforcement authorities to intercept drug shipments. It has discovered several attempts by rogue states to acquire weapons of mass destruction and supported diplomatic efforts to foil those attempts. It has helped law enforcement authorities around the world identify and, in some cases, arrest several notorious terrorists, including Carlos the Jackal in Sudan, the alleged trade center bombers in the Philippines, the head of the Shining Path in Peru, and those involved in the bombing of Pan Am 103; and supported United States Forces in Panama, as well as the Persian Gulf, Somalia, Rwanda, Haiti, Bosnia, and other places.

So, Mr. Speaker, CIA officers performed vital and often perilous service as our eyes and ears during the cold war, and continue to do so in our efforts today against foreign drug lords, rogue states, foreign terrorists and those who would harm U.S. troops abroad and those of us at home.

The panels of the Berlin Wall at Langley are a recognition of the contribution of these officers. The stars on the entrance wall there are a reminder of the cost of their contribution. The officers of CIA serve their country and make their sacrifices with no expectation whatsoever of public acclaim. For the 50th anniversary of the founding of the CIA, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to commemorate their lives and their work with these few humble words.

#### SPECIAL ORDER CONCERNING THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT HEYDAR ALIYEV OF AZERBAIJAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, tonight I have requested some time to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important visit to Washington which is taking place right now. Tomorrow President Heydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan will meet with President Clinton at the White House to discuss United States-Azeri relations and the ongoing negotiations concerning the situation in the Caucasus. This visit has serious implications for our policies and interests in the region, and I am hopeful that it will be used to further the interests of peace.

Azerbaijan is rich in oil and natural gas resources and there are numerous United States companies which are actively seeking to assist in the development of these resources. I believe very strongly that United States companies have the technology and

know-how to bring about this development in a way that ultimately would be most beneficial to the Azeri people. But these companies, and their representatives in Washington, have been pushing very hard to reshape U.S. policies in this region. I am very concerned that in their efforts to improve the relative position of Azerbaijan, they would tilt United States involvement in this very sensitive and important region in a way that will have a serious negative impact on negotiations which are currently underway in the region. I have watched with dismay as a campaign to repeal section 907 of the Freedom Support Act has been undertaken by our administration and by those with economic interests in the region, because I believe that this approach is counterproductive—indeed dangerous—to negotiations regarding the future of Nagorno Karabakh. In this regard, the House Foreign Operations subcommittee has worked to provide an evenhanded framework for United States policy which recognizes the need for objective dealings and for improving the climate for democracy in the region. If we tip the scale in favor of Azerbaijan, they will no longer have an incentive to negotiate in good faith on a permanent solution to the Nagorno Karabakh situation. This would be a great tragedy, because the termination of the negotiations brought on by a change of United States policy would almost certainly bring a return of armed hostilities between Armenian and Azeri. The world was horrified by the brutality of the last round of fighting in this tiny enclave, and we as a nation have invested a great deal in efforts to avoid a repeat of that bloodshed.

As the Minsk Group negotiations on the Nagorno Karabakh conflict continue, we must press upon all parties that inherent benefits they will receive from working together and establishing normal relations with one another. I firmly believe that it is in the long-term interests of these countries to find solutions that they can live with, where there will be peace, security, and prosperity for everyone in the region. The building of an oil pipeline in the region could be a tremendous positive force which brings these two old adversaries together and causes them to deal with each other in a mutually beneficial way. Azerbaijan cannot realize its full promise as a source of energy resources or as a legitimate player in the region until it makes peace with its neighbors and develops a better reputation for fair dealing. Armenia cannot wean itself from foreign assistance or fully develop its economy until the blockades it currently suffers under are gone and better relations are established with its neighbors to the East and Southwest. Moreover, both Russia and Iran stand ready to fill the political vacuums in both of these countries that will doubtlessly arise if there are not soon permanent solutions to the problems which plague them both.

Azerbaijan and Armenia both have everything to gain from better relations with one another. The United States must be an honest broker in the region, and must take into account the history of this conflict in evaluating the posture it should adopt toward each of these countries, both in the context of the Minsk Group talks and in one-on-one communications. The time has come for both countries to disregard the old zero sum game men-

tality that has been thoroughly discredited in the post-cold-war world. This would be a win-win situation for both Azerbaijan and Armenia, if only they will look for creative ways to solve their problems and work together. For its part, the United States should continue to push both countries to make appropriate concessions and to work on internal problems which are effecting their external disputes.

I believe both of these countries are important to U.S. interests in the region and we must do all that we can to bring them together, not only for our benefit but for the benefit of the parties as well. I believe that the language we have included in the Foreign Operations bill will bring us closer to this goal by providing for humanitarian assistance to all needy people in the region and allowing democracy building assistance to go to Azerbaijan for the first time. These are important steps in the right direction. I hope that tomorrow when President Clinton speaks with Mr. Aliyev, he will deliver some straight talk about the need to compromise and be a responsible player at home and abroad. I also hope that this visit by President Aliyev will be followed by an invitation to President Ter Petrossian of Armenia. Finally, I hope that in the end, the policies we adopt and implement, and the agreement which is reached by the parties, are driven by concepts of justice, fairness, international law, and an understanding by the parties that such a settlement is ultimately their best hope for the future.

#### THANKING COLLEAGUES FOR SUPPORTING HOUSE RESOLUTION 191

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank my colleagues for the bipartisan 416-to-2 vote in favor of my bill, House Resolution 191, last week. This overwhelming vote was certainly a factor in the European Community's decision to accept Boeing's final offer.

House Resolution 191 made clear that any European Community disapproval of the Boeing McDonnell Douglas merger would have constituted an unprecedented and unwarranted interference in a United States business transaction. It would have threatened thousands of jobs immediately and many thousands more if a trade war had resulted.

Thus, their action raises a disturbing question: How did a foreign consortium get to the point that it felt it had the authority to tell two wholly owned U.S. corporations what they could or should not do?

The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will hold a hearing on this whole issue on Friday to look into this specific foreign involvement; whether it was improper and what we must consider if such a situation occurs again. I hope the hearing will be in depth and complete, as these questions demand definite answers.